



# Department of Justice

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## **TRUCK DRIVER PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

BUFFALO, N.Y. - William Gorham Loomis, 53, of Tualatin, Ore., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge William Skretny, to a felony charge of possession of child pornography, U.S. Attorney Terrance P. Flynn of the Western District of New York announced today. Possession of child pornography carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$250,000, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles B. Wydysh, who handled the case, stated that the defendant, a self-employed truck driver, attempted to enter Canada at the Peace Bridge on July 3, 2006. Canadian Customs Agents conducted a search of defendant's truck and found a computer and CDs. Examination of the computer disclosed that it contained approximately 3,000 images of child pornography. The defendant was ultimately referred by Canadian authorities to agents of the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov/](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov/).

The plea was the culmination of an investigation on the part of Special Agents from the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter J. Smith, as well as representatives of Canadian Customs and the Niagara Regional Police.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 30, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. ET, in Buffalo, N.Y. in front of U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny.

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